

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. 1. A method of managing file extensions in a digital processing system with a user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name that comprises a filename and an extension, said method comprising:
  4. associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a single file in the plurality of files in said digital processing system and which indicates how to display an extension of the file;
  7. displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a style determined by said indicator.
1. 2. A method as in claim 1 wherein the style is such that the displayed name contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the extension of the file.
1. 3. A method as in claim 2 wherein said indicator is a bit, a file, an entry in a file, or an entry in a database, wherein said indicator in one state indicates hiding the extension and said indicator in another state indicates showing the extension.
1. 4. A method as in claim 3 wherein if the file is newly created with an automatically appended extension, then said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user interface.

- 1 5. A method as in claim 3 further comprising:  
2 updating said indicator in response to an input event.
- 1 6. A method as in claim 5 wherein the input event is that a new name is specified  
2 in the user interface for the file.
- 1 7. A method as in claim 6 wherein if the new name contains no extension, then  
2 said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user interface.
- 1 8. A method as in claim 7 wherein only the filename of the file is replaced by the  
2 new name so that the extension of the file is not changed.
- 1 9. A method as in claim 6 wherein if the new name contains no extension and  
2 the extension of the file is an empty string, then said indicator is set to a state  
3 that takes a minimum amount of memory to store said state.
- 1 10. A method as in claim 6 wherein if the new name comprising an extension and  
2 a filename, then said indicator is set to show the extension of the file in the  
3 user interface.
- 1 11. A method as in claim 10 wherein the filename of the file and the extension of  
2 the file are replaced by the filename of the new name and the extension of the  
3 new name.

- 1    12. A method as in claim 3 further comprising:  
2                 detecting if a first file that has a first filename and a first extension has a  
3                 naming conflict with a second file that has a second filename and a  
4                 second extension, wherein said first file has a first displayed name in  
5                 the user interface and said second file has a second displayed name in  
6                 the user interface.
- 1    13. A method as in claim 12 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2                 second displayed name, then a naming conflict is detected.
- 1    14. A method as in claim 12 wherein if the first filename and the first extension  
2                 are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a naming  
3                 conflict is detected.
- 4    15. A method as in claim 1 further comprising:  
5                 exporting both the filename of the file and the extension of the file to a remote  
6                 system when the file is transferred to the remote system.
- 1    16. A method as in claim 15 further comprising:  
2                 exporting said indicator to the remote system when the file is transferred to  
3                 the remote system.
- 1    17. A method as in claim 1 further comprising:

2 importing both the filename of the file and the extension of the file from a  
3 remote system when the file is transferred from the remote system.

1    18. A method as in claim 17 further comprising:  
2                 importing said indicator from the remote system when the file is transferred  
3                 from the remote system.

1       19. A method comprising:  
2           detecting a conflict in naming a first file and a second file in a file container in  
3           a digital processing system with a user interface, said first file having a  
4           first extension and a first filename, said second file having a second  
5           extension and a second filename, wherein said first file has a first  
6           indicator which is specific for said first file and which indicates the  
7           first extension is displayed in the user interface in a first style using a  
8           first displayed name and said second file has a second indicator which  
9           indicates the second extension is displayed in the user interface in a  
10          second style using a second displayed name.

1 20. A method as in claim 19 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2 second displayed name, then a conflict is detected.

1    21. A method as in claim 19 wherein if the first filename and the first extension  
2                  are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a conflict  
3                  is detected.

- 1    22. A machine readable media for use with a digital processing system which has  
2       a user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name and an  
3       extension, said machine readable media containing executable computer  
4       program instructions which when executed by said digital processing system  
5       causes said system to perform a method comprising:  
6           associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a single file in  
7               the plurality of files in said digital processing system and which  
8               indicates how to display an extension of the file;  
9           displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a style  
10               determined by said indicator.
- 1    23. A media as in claim 22 wherein the style is such that the displayed name  
2       contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the  
3       extension of the file.
- 1    24. A media as in claim 23 wherein said indicator is a bit, a file, an entry in a file,  
2       or an entry in a database, wherein said indicator in one state indicates hiding  
3       the extension and said indicator in another state indicates showing the  
4       extension.
- 1    25. A media as in claim 24 wherein if the file is newly created with an  
2       automatically appended extension, then said indicator is set to hide the  
3       extension of the file in the user interface.

- 1 26. A media as in claim 24 wherein the method further comprises:  
2 updating said indicator in response to an input event.
- 1 27. A media as in claim 26 wherein the input event is that a new name is specified  
2 in the user interface for the file.
- 1 28. A media as in claim 27 wherein if the new name contains no extension, then  
2 said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user interface.
- 1 29. A media as in claim 28 wherein only the filename of the file is replaced by the  
2 new name so that the extension of the file is not changed.
- 1 30. A media as in claim 27 wherein if the new name contains no extension and the  
2 extension of the file is an empty string, then said indicator is set to a state that  
3 takes a minimum amount of memory to store said state.
- 1 31. A media as in claim 27 wherein if the new name comprising an extension and  
2 a filename, then said indicator is set to show the extension of the file in the  
3 user interface.
- 1 32. A media as in claim 31 wherein the filename of the file and the extension of  
2 the file are replaced by the filename of the new name and the extension of the  
3 new name.

- 1    33. A media as in claim 24 wherein the method further comprises:  
2                 detecting if a first file that has a first filename and a first extension has a  
3                 naming conflict with a second file that has a second filename and a  
4                 second extension, wherein said first file has a first displayed name in  
5                 the user interface and said second file has a second displayed name in  
6                 the user interface.
- 1    34. A media as in claim 33 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2                 second displayed name, then a naming conflict is detected.
- 1    35. A media as in claim 33 wherein if the first filename and the first extension are  
2                 the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a naming  
3                 conflict is detected.
- 1    36. A media as in claim 22 wherein the method further comprises:  
2                 exporting both the filename of the file and the extension of the file to a remote  
3                 system when the file is transferred to the remote system.
- 1    37. A media as in claim 36 wherein the method further comprises:  
2                 exporting said indicator to the remote system when the file is transferred to  
3                 the remote system.
- 1    38. A media as in claim 22 wherein the method further comprises:

2 importing both the filename of the file and the extension of the file from a  
3 remote system when the file is transferred from the remote system.

1 39. A media as in claim 38 wherein the method further comprises:  
2 importing said indicator from the remote system when the file is transferred  
3 from the remote system.

1    40. A machine readable media for use with a digital processing system which has  
2       a user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name and an  
3       extension, said machine readable media containing executable computer  
4       program instructions which when executed by said digital processing system  
5       causes said system to perform a method comprising:  
6           detecting a conflict in naming a first file and a second file in a file container in  
7               the digital processing system, said first file having a first extension and  
8               a first filename, said second file having a second extension and a  
9               second filename, wherein said first file has a first indicator which is  
10          specific for said first file and which indicates the first extension is  
11          displayed in the user interface in a first style using a first displayed  
12          name and said second file has a second indicator which indicates the  
13          second extension is displayed in the user interface in a second style  
14          using a second displayed name.

- 1    41. A media as in claim 40 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2                          second displayed name, then a conflict is detected.
- 1    42. A media as in claim 40 wherein if the first filename and the first extension are  
2                          the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a conflict is  
3                          detected.
- 1    43. A digital processing system with a user interface and a plurality of files, each  
2                          file having a name that comprises a filename and an extension, said system  
3                          comprising:  
4                          means for associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a  
5                          single file in the plurality of files in said digital processing system and  
6                          which indicates how to display extensions of the files;  
7                          means for displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a  
8                          style determined by said indicator.
- 1    44. A system as in claim 43 wherein the style is such that the displayed name  
2                          contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the  
3                          extension of the file.
- 1    45. A system as in claim 44 wherein said indicator is a bit, a file, an entry in a file,  
2                          or an entry in a database, wherein said indicator in one state indicates hiding

3       the extension and said indicator in another state indicates showing the  
4       extension.

1   46. A system as in claim 45 wherein if the file is newly created with an  
2       automatically appended extension, then said indicator is set to hide the  
3       extension of the file in the user interface.

1   47. A system as in claim 45 further comprising:  
2       means for updating said indicator in response to an input event.

1   48. A system as in claim 47 wherein the input event is that a new name is  
2       specified in the user interface for the file.

1   49. A system as in claim 48 wherein if the new name contains no extension, then  
2       said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user interface.

1   50. A system as in claim 49 wherein only the filename of the file is replaced by  
2       the new name so that the extension of the file is not changed.

1   51. A system as in claim 48 wherein if the new name contains no extension and  
2       the extension of the file is an empty string, then said indicator is set to a state  
3       that takes a minimum amount of memory to store said state.

- 1    52. A system as in claim 48 wherein if the new name comprising an extension and  
2        a filename, then said indicator is set to show the extension of the file in the  
3        user interface.
- 1    53. A system as in claim 52 wherein the filename of the file and the extension of  
2        the file are replaced by the filename of the new name and the extension of the  
3        new name.
- 1    54. A system as in claim 45 further comprising:  
2        means for detecting if a first file that has a first filename and a first extension  
3                  has a naming conflict with a second file that has a second filename and  
4                  a second extension, wherein said first file has a first displayed name in  
5                  the user interface and said second file has a second displayed name in  
6                  the user interface.
- 1    55. A system as in claim 54 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2        second displayed name, then a naming conflict is detected.
- 1    56. A system as in claim 54 wherein if the first filename and the first extension  
2        are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a naming  
3        conflict is detected.
- 1    57. A system as in claim 43 further comprising:

2 means for exporting both the filename of the file and the extension of the file  
3 to a remote system when the file is transferred to the remote system.

1 58. A system as in claim 57 further comprising:  
2 means for exporting said indicator to the remote system when the file is  
3 transferred to the remote system.

1 59. A system as in claim 43 further comprising:  
2 means for importing both the filename of the file and the extension of the file  
3 from a remote system when the file is transferred from the remote  
4 system.

1 60. A system as in claim 59 further comprising:  
2 means for importing said indicator from the remote system when the file is  
3 transferred from the remote system.

1 61. A digital processing system with a user interface and a plurality of files, each  
2 file having a name that comprises a filename and an extension, said system  
3 comprising:  
4 means for detecting a conflict in naming a first file and a second file in a file  
5 container in the digital processing system, said first file having a first  
6 extension and a first filename, said second file having a second  
7 extension and a second filename, wherein said first file has a first  
8 indicator which is specific for said first file and which indicates the

9                   first extension is displayed in the user interface in a first style using a  
10                  first displayed name and said second file has a second indicator which  
11                  indicates the second extension is displayed in the user interface in a  
12                  second style using a second displayed name.

1     62.    A system as in claim 61 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2                  second displayed name, then a conflict is detected.

1     63.    A system as in claim 61 wherein if the first filename and the first extension  
2                  are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a conflict  
3                  is detected.

1     64.    A processing system comprising:  
2                  a processor;  
3                  a display device coupled to said processor, said display device displaying a  
4                  user interface;  
5                  a memory coupled to said processor, said memory storing a plurality of files,  
6                  each file having a name that comprises a filename and an extension,  
7                  said memory storing an indicator for a file which is user selectable for  
8                  a single file in said plurality of files and which indicates how to  
9                  display an extension associated with the file, said processor displaying  
10                 a displayed name of said file in said user interface in a style  
11                 determined by said indicator.

- 1    65. A processing system as in claim 64 wherein the style is such that the displayed  
2                 name contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for  
3                 showing the extension of the file.
- 1    66. A processing system as in claim 65 wherein said indicator is a bit, a file, an  
2                 entry in a file, or an entry in a database, wherein said indicator in one state  
3                 indicates hiding the extension and said indicator in another state indicates  
4                 showing the extension.
- 1    67. A processing system as in claim 66 wherein if the file is newly created with an  
2                 automatically appended extension, then said indicator is set to hide the  
3                 extension of the file in the user interface.
- 1    68. A processing system as in claim 66 further comprising:  
2                 an input device coupled with said processor, said processor updating said  
3                 indicator in response to an input event detected by said input device.
- 1    69. A processing system as in claim 68 wherein the input event is that a new name  
2                 is specified in the user interface for the file.
- 1    70. A processing system as in claim 69 wherein if the new name contains no  
2                 extension, then said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user  
3                 interface.



- 1    77. A processing system as in claim 75 wherein if the first filename and the first  
2       extension are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then  
3       a naming conflict is detected.
- 1    78. A processing system as in claim 64 further comprising:  
2       a network interface coupled to the said processor, said processor exports both  
3               the filename of the file and the extension of the file to a remote system  
4               when the file is transferred to the remote system through said network  
5               interface.
- 1    79. A processing system as in claim 78 wherein said processor exports said  
2       indicator to the remote system when the file is transferred to the remote  
3       system through said network interface.
- 1    80. A processing system as in claim 64 further comprising:  
2       a removable memory coupled to the said processor, said processor exports  
3               both the filename of the file and the extension of the file to a remote  
4               system when the file is transferred to the remote system through said  
5               removable memory.
- 1    81. A processing system as in claim 80 wherein said processor exports said  
2       indicator to the remote system when the file is transferred to the remote  
3       system through said removable memory.

- 1    82. A processing system as in claim 64 further comprising:  
2        a network interface coupled to the said processor, said processor imports both  
3                  the filename of the file and the extension of the file from a remote  
4                  system when the file is transferred from the remote system through  
5                  said network interface.
- 1    83. A processing system as in claim 82 wherein said processor imports said  
2        indicator from the remote system when the file is transferred from the remote  
3        system through said network interface.
- 1    84. A processing system as in claim 64 further comprising:  
2        a removable memory coupled to the said processor, said processor imports  
3                  both the filename of the file and the extension of the file from a remote  
4                  system when the file is transferred from the remote system through  
5                  said removable memory.
- 1    85. A processing system as in claim 84 wherein said processor imports said  
2        indicator from the remote system when the file is transferred from the remote  
3        system through said removable memory.
- 1    86. A processing system comprising:  
2        a processor;

3       a display device coupled to said processor, said display device displaying a  
4                  user interface;  
5        a memory coupled to said processor, said memory storing in a file container a  
6                  first file which has a first extension and a first filename, said memory  
7                  storing in said file container a second file which has a second filename  
8                  and a second extension, said memory storing a first indicator that is  
9                  specific for said first file and that indicates the first extension is  
10                 displayed in the user interface in a first style using a first displayed  
11                 name, said memory storing a second indicator that indicates the second  
12                 extension is displayed in the user interface in a second style using a  
13                 second displayed name, said processor detects a conflict in naming the  
14                 first file and the second file.

1       87.      A processing system as in claim 86 wherein if the first displayed name is the  
2                  same as the second displayed name, then a conflict is detected.

1       88.      A processing system as in claim 86 wherein if the first filename and the first  
2                  extension are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then  
3                  a conflict is detected.

1       89.      A method of managing file extensions in a digital processing system with a  
2                  user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name that comprises a  
3                  filename and an extension, said method comprising:

4 associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a subset of files  
5 in the plurality of files which have the same extension in said digital  
6 processing system and which indicates how to display an extension of  
7 the file;  
8 displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a style  
9 determined by said indicator.

1 90. A method as in claim 89 wherein the style is such that the displayed name  
2 contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the  
3 extension of the file.

1 91. A machine readable medium for use with a digital processing system which  
2 has a user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name and an  
3 extension, said machine readable medium containing executable computer  
4 program instructions which when executed by said digital processing system  
5 causes said system to perform a method comprising:  
6 associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a subset of files  
7 in the plurality of files which have the same extension in said digital  
8 processing system and which indicates how to display an extension of  
9 the file;  
10 displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a style  
11 determined by said indicator.

- 1    92. A medium as in claim 91 wherein the style is such that the displayed name  
2       contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the  
3       extension of the file.
- 1    93. A method of managing file extensions in a digital processing system with a  
2       user interface, said method comprising:  
3           associating a first file with an indicator which is user selectable for a subset of  
4           a plurality of files in the digital processing system, said indicator  
5           indicating that first extensions of said subset of files are displayed in a  
6           user interface in a first style which is different from a second style  
7           used to display at least a second file in said plurality of files, wherein  
8           said second file is not in said subset and has a second extension which  
9           is the same as at least one of said first extensions;  
10          displaying in said first style a first displayed name of said first file in the user  
11          interface.
- 1    94. A method as in claim 93 wherein said first style and said second style are  
2       selected from a set of styles, said set of styles comprising  
3           (a) showing an extension of a file being displayed; and  
4           (b) hiding an extension of a file being displayed.
- 1    95. A method as in claim 94 further comprising:

2       storing an option, wherein said option in one state indicates that unknown  
3       extensions are not extensions of files and said option on another state  
4       indicates that unknown extensions are extensions of files.  
5       determining an extension of a file using said option.

- 1       96. A machine readable medium for use with a digital processing system which  
2       has a user interface and a plurality of files, said machine readable medium  
3       containing executable computer program instructions which when executed by  
4       said digital processing system causes said system to perform a method  
5       comprising:  
6              associating a first file with an indicator which is user selectable for a subset of  
7              a plurality of files in the digital processing system, said indicator  
8              indicating that first extensions of said subset of files are displayed in a  
9              user interface in a first style which is different from a second style  
10             used to display at least a second file in said plurality of files, wherein  
11             said second file is not in said subset and has a second extension which  
12             is the same as at least one of said first extensions;  
13             displaying in said first style a first displayed name of said first file in the user  
14             interface.

- 1       97. A media as in claim 96 wherein said first style and said second style are  
2       selected from a set of styles, said set of styles comprising  
3             (a) showing an extension of a file being displayed; and

4                   (b)     hiding an extension of a file being displayed.

1   98.   A media as in claim 97 wherein the method further comprises:  
2       storing an option, wherein said option in one state indicates that unknown  
3       extensions are not extensions of files and said option on another state  
4       indicates that unknown extensions are extensions of files.  
5       determining an extension of a file using said option.